

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Executive Registry

11-2020/

11 MAR 1959

Dr. James W. McRae
 Vice President
 American Telephone and Telegraph Company
 195 Broadway
 New York 7, New York

Dear Dr. McRae:

As Bill Webster has undoubtedly told you, I have had for a number of years a panel of experts under his chairmanship review our intelligence and estimates on the Soviet atomic energy program. This intelligence field is among the most important with which we have to deal. Because of its highly technical nature, I have found it extremely useful to have advice from experts outside the immediate intelligence community.

I understand that Bill Webster has informally discussed with you the possibility of your serving as a member of his panel. I should very much like to urge you to serve on this advisory panel, since I feel that your past experience in the atomic energy development program and your broad background in many national security fields would provide tremendous help in our work.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

John W. Dulles
 Director

CONCURRENCES

Assistant Director/SI

Deputy Director/Intelligence

Distribution: 1 - Addressee 1 - DCI 1 - DDCI 1 - DDI 1 - Exec/Registry
 1 - NED/SI 1 - Admin/SI 2 - AD/SI

OSI/HScoville:gs (5 Mar 59)

EXECUTIVE

Executive Registry

11-2020/2

11 MAR 1959

Dr. James B. Fisk
President
Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc.
Murray Hill, New Jersey

Dear Jim:

Pete Scoville has told me of your decision to resign from Bill Webster's panel which has been reviewing the atomic energy intelligence situation for so many years. I am very sorry to hear of this for you have been a great help and given me confidence in our estimates in this highly technical, but very important field. I do understand your situation, however, but do hope that we can continue to call on you from time to time in an emergency even though you may not be actively participating in the activities of Bill Webster's panel.

With warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

CONCURRENCES:

Assistant Director/Scientific Intelligence

Date

Deputy Director/Intelligence

Date

Distribution: 1 - Addressee 1 - DCI 1 - DDCI 1 - DD/I 4 - Exec Registry
2 - AD/SI 1 - NED/SI 1 - Admin/SI

OSI/HScoville:gs (5 Mar 59)

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Executive Registry

11-2020

5 MAR 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Webster Panel Membership

1. Enclosed for your signature are letters to Dr. James B. Fisk, who is resigning from the Webster Panel, and Dr. James W. McRae, whom we are inviting to serve as a member of the Panel.

2. Dr. Fisk has indicated that, because of the press of his new duties as President of Bell Laboratories and his continuing activities with Dr. Killian's Science Advisory Committee, he is no longer able to serve as a member of Bill Webster's atomic energy panel. While we regret this, the facts are that he has been unable to spend any time with the panel this year and only a little time in the last year or so. Therefore, I believe that we must accept his resignation, but we will try and keep him on as a consultant on an ad hoc basis.

3. In discussing Dr. Fisk's replacement with Bill Webster, we agreed that Jim McRae would be an ideal choice. He was formerly President of Sandia Corporation where he knew the U. S. atomic energy weapons program inside out. He has also been on a large number of Defense Department R and D committees. He is now Vice President of AT&T. He is eminently qualified as a member of the Webster Panel. As you know, he also served on Hyland's Panel reviewing the ICBM program last fall and this will permit our using him on a more continuing basis.

HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.
Assistant Director
Scientific Intelligence

Enclosures:

1. Proposed Ltr to Fisk

2. Proposed Ltr to McRae